



8-23-04

RCE ✓
JFW

PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/897,003
Filing Date	July 2, 2001
First Named Inventor	Smith et al.
Art Unit	2855
Examiner Name	L. Martir
Attorney Docket Number	2507-5740US

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on ____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ____
- iii. ☐ Other ____
- b. Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other ____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period of ____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other ____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-1469
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other ____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$770.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	Kirsten L. Dockstader	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	54,597
Signature	<i>K. Dockstader</i>	Date	August 20, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Express Mail Label Number: EV348043343US

Date of Deposit: August 20, 2004

Person Making Deposit: Christopher Haughton

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

08/24/2004 SS1TH1B1 00000105 09897003

770.00 DP

02 FC:1801



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Smith et al.

Serial No.: 09/897,003

Filed: July 2, 2001

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
MEASURING BENDING IN A PIN
MEMBER

Confirmation No.: 1140

Examiner: L. Martir

Group Art Unit: 2855

Attorney Docket No.: 2507-5740US
(21821-US)

NOTICE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mail Mailing Label Number: EV348043343US

Date of Deposit with USPS: August 20, 2004

Person making Deposit: Christopher Haughton

AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING RCE

MAIL STOP RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are filed in response to the Examiner's remarks in the Final Office Action mailed April 20, 2004 and the Advisory Action mailed August 2, 2004. The previously filed Amendment was not entered for a variety of reasons as stated in the Advisory Action. The present Amendment is filed in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination, a petition for a one month extension of time and the required fee.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Serial No. 09/897,003

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 14 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 15 of this paper.